

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MBFR V 00449 221327Z

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 IO-13
L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 SY-05
/090 W

-----000727 221454Z /44

R 221256Z AUG 77

FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2240

INFO AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L MBFR VIENNA 0449

FROM PRESEL

MUNICH PLEASE PASS LT COL LAJOIE, USARI GARMISCH

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4

TAGS: PINT, PDIP, ASEC, UR, US

SUBJ: SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY CHARGES AGAINST PRESEL

REF: A. MOSCOW 11491, B. MUNICH 2359

1. REGRET DELAY IN RESPONDING TO REF A; I RETURNED
FROM TWO WEEKS LEAVE ON AUGUST 20.

2. THE SUBSTANCE OF THE ACCUSATIONS IN KEGELMAN'S
LETTER IS UTTER NONSENSE. OUR ONLY MEETING, AT A
SHASHYLCHNAYA ACROSS FROM THE NOVOKUZNetskAYA METRO
STATION, OCCURRED AS DESCRIBED IN PARA 7 REF B.
KEGELMAN WAS NEVER IN MY APARTMENT. DURING OUR
CONVERSATION I PROBABLY DID ASK HIM WHY HE WANTED TO
EMIGRATE, AND I MAY WELL HAVE GIVEN HIM MY ADDRESS
(ALTHOUGH HE NEVER TRIED TO RENEW CONTACT WITH ME
BY PHONE, THROUGH THE MOSCOW REFUSENIK COMMUNITY OR
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PAGE 02 MBFR V 00449 221327Z

THROUGH WESTERNERS VISITING KISHINEV). I NEVER
REQUESTED LISTS OF WOULD-BE EMIGRANTS FROM KISINEV
NOR LISTS OF PERSONS ENGAGED IN SECRET WORK. I AT NO
TIME PROMISED KEGELMAN A GIFT AND NEITHER LAJOIE NOR
MYSELF ROSE TO THE BAIT OF HELPING TO GET A TAPE
RECORDER OR CALCULATOR INTO THE USSR. I DOUBT THAT I
HARPED ON THE PROBLEMS OF SOVIET JEWRY, A SUBJECT ON

WHICH KEGELMAN WAS IN ANY EVENT FAR BETTER INFORMED
THAN I COULD HOPE TO BE.

3. IT IS QUITE TRUE, AS STATED IN PARA 8, REF B, THAT
I CONSIDERED KEGELMAN A SHADY CHARACTER, IF ONLY BECAUSE
ANYONE WORKING FOR INTURIST IN KISHINEV OR ELSEWHERE IS
A PRETTY GOOD CANDIDATE FOR A KGB CONNECTION. FOLLOWING
MY MEETING WITH KEGELMAN, I ASKED SEVERAL REFUSENIK CON-
TACTS (INCLUDING ONE WHO LIVED IN KISHINEV) ABOUT HIM.
ALL RESPONDED THAT NOTHING PREJUDICIAL WAS KNOWN ABOUT
HIM, BUT THAT HIS EMPLOYMENT RAISED QUESTIONS.

4. NEVERTHELESS MY CONTACTS OBSERVED THAT IT WAS PERFECTLY
PLAUSIBLE THAT KEGELMAN MIGHT GENUINELY WISH TO EMIGRATE.
THEY NOTED THAT DEMOTION FROM A GOOD JOB AND BLOCKAGE
IN THE STUDIES OF HIS DAUGHTER (I BELIEVE AN ONLY CHILD),
WERE GOOD REASONS FOR A DECISION TO EMIGRATE. THE
KISHINEV CONTACT FOUND THE TAPE RECORDER STORY ENTIRELY IN
KEEPING WITH WHAT HE KNEW OF THE MORALS OF THE KISHINEV
OVIR CHIEF.

5. I AGREE WITH THE COMMENT IN PARA 4 REF A. THE
TIMING OF THE MFA DEMARCHE, THREE WORKING DAYS AFER
MY DEPARTURE, MAKES IT SEEM MORE LIKE A FAREWELL PRESENT
THAN ANYTHING ELSE. THE HALF-HEARTED APPROACH OF THE MFA
MAKES ME THINK THAT THEY TOO KNEW THAT THE ACCUSATIONS
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PAGE 03 MBFR V 00449 221327Z

WERE MADE UP OUT OF WHOLE CLOTH. IT IS NEVERTHELESS NOTE-
WORTHY THAT THE AUTHORITIES HAD TO RESORT TO SUCH A
WEAKLY-FORMULATED, BUSH LEAGUE ACCUSATION CONCERNING MY
ACTIVITIES IN MOSCOW.

6. I DO NOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY THAT KEGELMAN WROTE
THE LETTER BY HIMSELF, AND WITHOUT THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF
THE KGB. HE MAY HAVE HOPED TO SECURE SOME CONCESSION
FROM THE KISHINEV AUTHORITIES (PERHAPS INDEED THE EXIT
VISA), BY DENOUNCING A FORMER EMBOFF.

7. I HOPE THAT MOSCOW WILL KEEP MBFR VIENNA ON
DISTRIBUTION FOR MESSAGES ON THIS SUBJECT AND THOSE
CONCERNING THE SHCHARANSKIY CASE.DEAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLEGATIONS, ESPIONAGE AGENTS, EMIGRANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MBFRV00449
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X4
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770302-0898
Format: TEL
From: MBFR VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770838/aaaabfld.tel
Line Count: 108
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0d6cfa56-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MOSCOW 11491, 77 MUNICH 2359
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1528548
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY CHARGES AGAINST PRESEL
TAGS: PINT, PDIP, ASEC, UR, US, (PRESEL, JOSEPH)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0d6cfa56-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009